

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image processing filter processes an image, and the resultant processed image is merged with an unprocessed version of the image using an alpha channel. The ability to modify the alpha channel based on user input is provided, and the image is reprocessed upon the alpha channel being modified. It is possible for image processing filters to be painted on to an image. The paint layer system takes into consideration how much paint has been applied to the pixel being processed. The simplest form of the invention, which can be expressed as $\text{ProcessedPixel} = \text{SourcePixel} + \text{AlphaPixel}$, results in each pixel in the image being brightened by an amount relative to the spatially equivalent alpha channel pixel.